5	Meghalaya	The State is inhabted mostly by tribal people and meat is one of their principal food.
6	Manipur	Cow slaughter has been practised in traibal villages as a tradition and ban may create problems.
7	Lakshwadweep	The islanders like to consume beef as other types of meat are not available inadequate quantities.

Import of coal by SAIL and TISCO

1759. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity and value of coal imported by SAIL and TISCO during the years 1988, 1989, 1990 and so far in 1991;

(b) what are the reasons for such imports; and

(c) whether the requirement of coal, cannot be met by Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Quantity and Value of imports of coking coal by SAIL and TISCO, financial year-wise, are indicated below:

(Quantity : in Million tonnes)
(Value : in Rs./crores)

Year	SAIL		TISCO	
	Quantity	Approximate Value (C&F)	Quantity	Approximate Value (C& F)
1987-88	2.490	172.5	0.589	40.96
1988-89	3.740	329.5	0.699	57.85
1989-90	3.748	426.8	0.658	67.49
1990-91	4.493	543.8	0.722	82.85
1991-92 (upto June '91)	0.939	141.0	0.225	30.00

(b) Import of Coking Coal is resorted to fill qualitative and quantitative gaps between the requirements and indigenous availability, with a view to increasing production of hot metal; improving upon Blast Furnace productivity; increasing coke strength and quality; and reducing coke requirement; etc.

(c) It has been the experience that Coal India Ltd. sources have not been able to fully meet SAIL's quantitative and qualitative requirements of coking coal. TISCO's requirements are mostly met by their captive collieries and procurement from Coal India Limited sources is nominal.

Freedom to TISCO and SAIL from price control

1760. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to free TISCO and SAIL from price control; and